

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour~~[[,]] characterized in that it~~
~~comprises~~comprising
2-15% ~~[[S]]~~sugars,
0.2-1.5% ~~[[C]]~~cyclitols (pinitol),
2-10% ~~[[L]]~~lignins,
10-30% ~~[[C]]~~celluloses,
3-20% ~~[[H]]~~hemicelluloses,
1-6% ~~[[P]]~~pectins,
25-55% ~~[[C]]~~condensed tannins,
3-9% ~~[[P]]~~protein and less than 8%~~[[W]]~~water.
2. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to claim 1, wherein the ~~[[S]]~~sugar
content is 3-10%.
3. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the
~~[[C]]~~cyclitols content is 0.3-1%.
4. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to ~~one of~~ claim~~[[s]]~~ 1~~[[3]]~~,
wherein the ~~[[L]]~~lignins content is 2-7%.
one
5. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to ~~one of~~ claim~~[[s]]~~ 1~~[[4]]~~,
wherein the ~~[[C]]~~celluloses content is 15-28%.

6. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-5]], wherein the [[H]]hemicelluloses content is 3-9%.

7. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-6]], wherein the [[P]]pectins content is 2-5%.

8. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-7]], wherein the [[C]]condensed [[T]]tannins content is 30-48%.

9. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-8]], wherein the [[P]]protein content is 4-8%.

10. (Currently Amended) Denatured carob flour according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-9]], wherein the [[W]]water content is less than 6%.

11. (Currently Amended) Process to obtain a flour according to claim 1, comprising the following steps:

- a. [[C]]cleaning the whole fruit;
- b. [[C]]crushing the carob fruits;
- c. ~~Separation of~~ separating carob seeds and kibbled carob pulp;
- d. [[T]]toasting between 130-200°C;
- e. ~~Extraction process~~ extracting;
- f. ~~Separation~~[[:]]separating;
- g. [[M]]milling[[:]] 90% of particles below 250 µm;
- h. ~~Separation~~[[:]]separating;
- i. [[D]]drying[[:]] below 8%[[,]] and
- j. ~~Classification~~ classifying (sieving)[[:]] .

12. (Original) Process according to claim 11, wherein in step b. the carob pod is shredded into pieces smaller than 3 cm.

13. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 11 ~~or~~ 12, wherein the temperature is between 140-150°C.

14. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 11 [[-13]], wherein the time period for the toasting process is 5-60 minutes.

15. (Original) Process according to claim 14, wherein the time period is 10-20 minutes.

16. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 11 [[-15]], wherein in step e. the extraction is performed in the range of 5-80°C.

17. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 11 [[-16]], wherein in step e. the ratio of pulp to water is 1:20 (wt./wt.).

18. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 11 [[-17]], wherein in step e. the extraction is performed for 5 minutes to 24 hours.

19. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 11 [[-18]], wherein in step g. 90% of particles are below 150 µm.

20. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 11 [[-19]], wherein between steps g. and h. steps e. and f. are at least once repeated.

21. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 11 [[-20]], wherein in step i. the drying is performed at a temperature which does not exceed 140 °C. [[8%]]

22.(Currently Amended) Process according to ~~one of claim~~[[s]] 11[[-21]], wherein the process is carried out continuously.

23.(Currently Amended) ~~The use of the flour according to claim 1 in f~~ Foods, dietary supplements, animal feed, pet food, human ~~and~~ or animal medicine comprising flour according to claim 1.